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# New Executive Director Joins LAMA

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## LAMA news section

### New Executive Director Joins LAMA



In July, Kerry Ward was appointed executive director of the Library Administration and Management Association (LAMA). Ward had been LAMA's acting director since February. He brings to LAMA more than fifteen years of experience in both association management firms and major stand-alone associations. He has been with the American Library Association (ALA) for more than eight years, including five years as executive director of the Association for Library Trustees and Advocates (ALTA). Ward holds a bachelor of science degree from Western Michigan University and in 2004 he earned a master's degree in nonprofit business administration from the University of Notre Dame.

Ward noted two main areas in which he wanted to have an immediate impact with LAMA. First, he wants LAMA to be a model of operational excellence, both in the quality of support to LAMA volunteers and in the efficiency of service to members. He also wants to reinvigorate longstanding relationships with LAMA partners and to build relationships with new ones. Kerry said he believes that for associations to be successful, they must be creative in building the right relationships with the right partners. In doing so, they will provide better value to their members and expand their market opportunities, he said.

In addition, Ward stated that he understands LAMA members worked hard to craft a strategic plan that envisions a growing and vibrant organization, and that he looks forward to being a leader in realizing that vision. Ward can be reached at the Chicago LAMA office at (800) 545-2433, ext. 5036, or e-mail [kward@ala.org](mailto:kward@ala.org).—*Eric Shoaf*

### From the President

LAMA members: As part of my "Fifty Ways to LEAD Your LAMA" theme, I am announcing a \$500 prize from an anonymous donor for the division member who proposes the best strategic initiative for our FY09 action plans, as judged by the LAMA Executive Committee. While LAMA expects to adopt many of the ideas suggested by members, the winning proposal will be selected for its feasibility and likelihood of significantly advancing LAMA's strategic vision and goals. To make a proposal, go to the LAMA Web site.

Submissions are due no later than April 1, 2008. The award will be announced at the LAMA President's Program in Anaheim, California, as part of the ALA

Annual Conference. You do not need to be present at the Conference to win, but you must be a LAMA member. LAMA Executive Council members and LAMA members who work at the same institutions as LEC members are not eligible to enter.—*Bede Mitchell, LAMA President*

### Systems and Services Section (SASS)

SASS members presented two programs at ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. in June, "Access Services, It's Not Just Circulation Any More!" and "New Technical Services Supervisor? Check Here for Help." One program for the 2008 Annual meeting was tentatively approved by the LAMA Program Committee for a future conference and several other ideas for programs are in development. The newly formed LAMA/SASS/RUSA/STARS Cooperative/Remote Circulation Committee held its inaugural meeting and proposed topics for future work. A new book titled *New Supervisors in Technical Services: A Management Guide Using Checklists*, edited by Emily Bergman and Andrea Kappler, of the Technical Services Systems Committee (TSSC), published in 2007 by LAMA, was unveiled at the conference and copies were available for purchase in the ALA Store. It is also available from ALA Editions ([www.alastore.ala.org](http://www.alastore.ala.org)). The book's thirty informative chapters were written by current and former members of TSSC. SASS has been busy fulfilling the goals of the LAMA Strategic Plan by furnishing information and programming to its members.—*Sharon Castleberry*

### SASS Technical Services Systems Committee

The committee produced a program at ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C., entitled "New Technical Services Supervisor? Check Here for Help," which featured speakers Joan Giesecke (University of Nebraska-Lincoln), Lila (Angie) Ohler (University of Maryland) and Andrea Kappler (Evansville Indiana Vanderburgh Public Library). The speakers were introduced by Michelle Turvey-Welch (Kansas State University), who was one of the program planners. This program examined how a first-time technical services supervisor effectively employs checklists in order to manage technical services operations and was based on the recently published book, mentioned previously, *New Supervisors in Technical Services: A Management Guide Using Checklists*. The speakers pointed out that whether one is new to the profession or new to the management

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